

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**5 METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR BUILDING COMMERCIAL DISTRIBUTED
 COMPUTING NETWORKS VIA COMPUTER COST SUBSIDIZATION**

10 A method and apparatus for distributed computing in
 a network data processing system. A task is accepted for
 distributed computing. Work units are sent to a
 plurality of data processing systems on a network,
 wherein each data processing system within the plurality
 of data processing systems includes a software for
15 accepting a work unit, processing the work unit to
 generate a result, and returning the result, wherein the
 software is monitored for compliance with an operation
 policy requiring a connection to the network and
 allocating a period of time for processing work units.
20 Results are received from the plurality of data
 processing systems. These data processing systems may be
 individually owned by consumers in which the systems are
 provided at no cost or some lower cost in return for
 making available processing resources for processing work
25 units.

FOOTNOTES: 051001